

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A system for managing bidding information, comprising:
pricing storage that maintains information relating to pricing structures and pricing amounts;
a bid invitation generator associated with a buyer and adapted to present information relating to a buyer requirement for review by a plurality of potential bidders;
an interface that provides the information relating to a buyer requirement to the plurality of potential bidders in the form of a bid invitation; and
a contract engine responsive to bids submitted by one or more bidders and configured to receive a bid comprising a pricing structure and pricing amounts from a first bidder, and to make available the pricing structure for review by other potential bidders.
2. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the contract engine is configured to make the pricing amounts from the first bidder available for review by other potential bidders.
3. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, further comprising a bid aggregator adapted to generate a summary of pricing terms from bids received from among the plurality of potential bidders.
4. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 3, wherein the bid aggregator is configured to score the bids according to a predetermined scoring standard.
5. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 4, wherein the highest scoring bidder is selected as a winning bidder.
6. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the contract engine is configured to form a contract including pricing information related to pricing structure and pricing amounts submitted by a winning bidder.

7. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 6, wherein the interface supervises contracting workflow to allow for approval of the contract.
8. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the pricing structure comprises location-specific pricing information.
9. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the pricing structure comprises date-based pricing information.
10. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented system for managing bidding information, comprising:
pricing storage that maintains information relating to pricing structures and pricing amounts;
a bid invitation generator associated with a buyer and adapted to present information relating to a buyer requirement for review by a plurality of potential bidders;
an interface that provides the information relating to a buyer requirement to the plurality of potential bidders in the form of a bid invitation; and
a contract engine responsive to bids submitted by one or more bidders and configured to receive a bid comprising a pricing structure and pricing amounts from a first bidder.
11. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the pricing structure comprises location-specific pricing information.
12. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the pricing structure comprises date-based pricing information.
13. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method of managing bid pricing information, comprising:
receiving transaction information and item data from a buyer;

generating a bid invitation containing entries relating to the transaction information and item data, and making the bid invitation available to a plurality of potential bidders; receiving from one or more of the potential bidders bid responses containing a complex pricing structure and corresponding complex pricing amounts; wherein the complex pricing structure is selected and supplied by each potential bidder, and the complex pricing structures supplied by two or more potential bidders include bids with multiple different pricing amounts; and selecting a winning bidder based on the complex pricing amounts.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein a complex pricing structure from a first bidder is made available for review by other potential bidders.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein complex pricing amounts from a first bidder are made available for review by other potential bidders.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising generating a summary of pricing terms from bids received from among the plurality of potential bidders.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising scoring the bids according to a predetermined scoring standard.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, further comprising selecting the highest scoring bidder as a winning bidder.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising forming a contract including pricing information related to pricing structure and pricing amounts submitted by a winning bidder.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the complex pricing structure comprises location-specific pricing information.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the complex pricing structure comprises date-based pricing information.
22. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the bid response from a first bidder of the plurality of bidders contains multiple bid prices for a particular item, with each bid price being associated with different terms identified and specified by the bidder.
23. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising providing the different bid terms from the first bidder, but not the bid prices, to the plurality of bidders other than the first bidder, and seeking bid prices from the plurality of bidders other than the first bidder for the different bid terms.
24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the different terms and the bid prices correspond to geographic location-specific information.
25. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the multiple different pricing amounts comprise multiple prices from a particular bidder for a particular bid item.
26. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising aggregating bids received from the plurality of bidders when a bidding period has ended.
27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising normalizing prices of the aggregated bids to permit comparison among differing bids.
28. (New) A computer-implemented method of managing bid pricing information, comprising:
receiving from an owner transaction information regarding an item on which the owner seeks bids;
generating a bid invitation including the information regarding the item and making the bid invitation available to a plurality of potential bidders;

receiving from a first bidder a bid response that contains multiple different bid prices that are independent of each other and that each correspond to terms for the particular price; and

selecting a winning bidder based on the bid prices and corresponding terms.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising making the terms of the bid response received from the first bidder, available to other of the potential bidders, and receiving prices from at least some of the other potential bidders.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising concealing from the other potential bidders the prices bid by the first bidder.

31. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising aggregating the bid prices for common terms to permit comparison among different bids.